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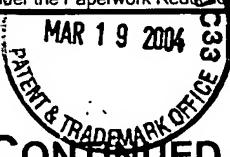
RCE #

PTO/SB/29 (10-00)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0032

Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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 <p>REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE) TRANSMITTAL</p> <p>Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000 provides for continued examination of an utility or plant application filed on or after June 8, 1995 See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).</p>	Application Number	10/034,271
	Filing Date	March 18, 2004
	First Named Inventor	Marc R. Amling
	Group Art Unit	3739
	Examiner Name	John P. Leubecker
	Attorney Docket Number	02580-P0056A

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application

NOTE: 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53 (d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Final Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 50092 (Aug. 16, 2000); interim Rule 65 Red. Reg. 14865 (Mar. 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.

1. Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114

- a. ☐ Previously submitted
- i. ☐ Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. 1.116 previously filed on _____
(Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered).
- ii. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on _____
- ii. ☐ Other _____
- b. Enclosed
- i. ☒ Amendment/Reply
- ii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
- iii. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
- iv. ☐ Other _____

2. Miscellaneous

- a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103© for a period of _____ months. (Period of suspension shall be exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) required.)
- b. ☐ Other _____

3. Fees The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when the RCE is filed.


- a. ☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-4516.
- i. ☒ RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e)
- ii. ☒ Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17)
- iii. ☒ Other Any Fee Deficiency
- b. ☒ Check in the amount of \$928.00 is enclosed
- c. ☐ Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

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SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

Name (Print / Type)	Wesley W. Whitmyer, Jr.	Registration No (Attorney/Agent)	33,558
Signature		Date	March 18, 2004

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION

Hardy copy of this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as Express Mail No. EL 574 205 837 US in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner For Patents, Box RCE; Washington, DC 20231, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on: March 15, 2004.

Name (Print / Type)	Caroline B. Gahagan
Signature	
Date	March 19, 2004

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 0.2 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND Fees and Completed Forms to the following address: Commissioner for Patents, Box RCE, Washington, DC 20231.

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